Nation

Bolton book ups pressure to call impeachment trial witnesses. **A9**

Kobe Bryant's death

Fog: Pilot may have become disoriented. **A8**
Reaction: Warriors left grief-stricken. **B1**
Online extra: Visual essay of NBA superstar's career. **sfchronicle.com/kobebryant**

Datebook

Ron Nagle's humorous works suffer in traditional display. **E1**

San Francisco Chronicle

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SUPER BOWL LIV
Chiefs vs. 49ers

David J. Phillip / Associated Press

Super selfies: 49ers all smiles as week begins

Super Bowl week began Monday night with the usual circus that is media night. The 49ers arrived at Marlins Park in Miami dressed in white hoodies provided for all the players and coaches. The Niners' Kyle Shanahan refused, saying, "There was no way I was wearing that." The stars of the night for San Francisco were assistant coach Katie Sowers (who drew a big crowd) and tight end George Kittle. Meanwhile, Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes detailed his respect for the 49ers defense: "They're good everywhere." **See stories in Sports, B1**

Online: Find a guide to the Super Bowl, including a visual essay of the 2019-20 season, a history of the 49ers, a look at the matchups with the Chiefs and all of The Chronicle's 49ers coverage. **sfchronicle.com/superbowl**

Officials: S.F. will be ready for virus

Emergency center gets set in case illness spreads here

By Dominic Fracassa

San Francisco Mayor London Breed said Monday that the city is activating its emergency operations center to centralize a response to any local cases of the deadly outbreak of coronavirus.

The virus, with its epicenter in Wuhan, China, has so far sickened five people in the United States, including two in Southern California.

"San Francisco is ready to respond in order to ensure public safety," said Breed at a midday news conference on the outbreak.

The mayor and city health officials reiterated there have been no confirmed cases in San Francisco, but Dr. Tomás Aragón of the public health department said that the city is "actively preparing for confirmed cases." In general, that entails keeping in close contact with nearby hospitals and health providers to ensure medical facilities are at the ready to properly quarantine and care

Coronavirus continues on A11

Impact: World stock markets sink while China tightens restrictions in bid to stop spread of virus. **A6**

Deal over misuse of foreclosure funds cost the state $1.4 million

By Alexei Koseff

SACRAMENTO — California paid more than $1.4 million to cover the legal costs of community groups that sued the state for diverting hundreds of millions of dollars meant to help homeowners hit by foreclosures during the last recession, documents obtained by The Chronicle show.

Representatives for Gov. Gavin Newsom and other state officials reached the settlement in November, agreeing to pay $1.4 million for attorney's fees and $26,067 for undisclosed costs for three groups that pursued their case against the state for five years. The Chronicle obtained a copy of the settlement through a public records request.

The two sides were fighting over how California would spend its share of a nationwide settlement with five banks that had been accused of abusive lending practices linked to the economic crash of 2008. While the state tried to use the money to plug a budget hole, courts repeatedly sided with the community groups that argued the money should go to direct aid for homeowners.

The Newsom administration finally gave up the battle after losing in the state Supreme Court last year.

Foreclosures continues on A10

S.F. police union in an escalating battle with D.A.

By Evan Sernoffsky

San Francisco District Attorney Chesa Boudin's decision to withdraw criminal charges last week against a man who was shot by police after allegedly attacking officers with a bottle has inflamed a simmering conflict between the city's new progressive prosecutor and the law enforcement groups that opposed his election.

The city's police union accused Boudin — a former public defender — of giving a "green light" to criminals to attack police, and on Monday called on the federal government to prosecute Jamaica Hampton, the 24-year-old man accused in the Dec. 7 attack in the Mission District. Hampton remains hospitalized and recently had his leg amputated after being shot three

Boudin continues on A11

Weather

Mostly cloudy.
Highs: 57-62.
Lows: 39-48.
D4

Melting Arctic ice linked to extreme weather

State's 'atmospheric rivers' tied to polar condition, definitive study says

By Peter Fimrite

The fast-melting ice in the Arctic may be the primary cause of extreme weather across the globe, including some of the most violent, damaging storms to hit the Bay Area and California, a Scripps Institution of Oceanography study has found.

The Scripps paper, published Monday in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, is the first definitive study of the links between melting polar ice and changing climatic conditions reaching to the tropics, a cause-and-effect relationship that scientists had plenty of evidence for but had never precisely documented to this extent.

The study provides evidence that the melting ice sets in motion a chain of events, including major disruptions in wind and weather patterns at the equator and in the central Pacific Ocean. That, in turn, can trigger El Niño weather events and the violent "atmospheric rivers" that bring deluges of rain, sometimes causing havoc in the Bay Area.

The changes in atmospheric convection documented in the report could also influence

Sea Ice continues on A10

Mario Tama / Getty Images 2017

A study of Arctic sea ice connects the melting ice cap and changing climatic conditions around the globe, including weather patterns affecting California.